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## Common Book Project Designed to Increase Creativity Through Craft Kits

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# Common Book Project Designed to Increase Creativity Through Craft Kits

## Quick Facts

- In the first weeks of college, new Winthrop students are discussing this year's Common Book, "Make the Impossible Possible" by Bill Strickland.
- Winthrop's Career & Civic Engagement, along with Home Depot, will host its own Craftsman's Guild on Aug. 28.



Laura Foster

ROCK HILL, S.C. – Freshman students at Winthrop University will participate in a **Common Book Service Project** on Saturday, Aug. 28, to help area youth express their creativity.

The event, which will last from 10 a.m. to noon, will take place on the **Byrnes Auditorium** lawn.

In the first weeks of college, new Winthrop students are discussing this year's Common Book, "Make the Impossible Possible" by Bill Strickland. The author is founder and CEO of the **Manchester Craftsmen's Guild**, an innovative nonprofit agency in Pittsburgh, Pa., that uses the arts to inspire inner-city teenagers.

Strickland, a winner of a MacArthur Fellowship "genius" award, started the Manchester Craftmen's Guild in 1968, while still an undergraduate at the University of Pittsburgh. He added the Bidwell Training Center in 1972 to offer job skills and an appreciation for the arts to disadvantaged young people.

Winthrop's **Center for Career & Civic Engagement**, along with Home Depot, will host its own Craftsman's Guild on Aug. 28. Home Depot will supply craft kits as nearly 60 Winthrop students and Home Depot staff work one-on-one with elementary-aged children from York County.

"I'm excited that our students can come together for this service event," said Laura Foster, program director at the Center for Career & Civic Engagement. "It gives our college students a way to demonstrate their compassion and make a difference in the community in which they now live."

For more information, Foster at [foster@winthrop.edu](mailto:foster@winthrop.edu) or 803/323-2520. The rain location is the **Student Activity Center** beside Withers/W.T.S. Building.

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IN THE HEART OF THE CAROLINAS

